

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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47

ACTION SS-25

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FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3400

C O N F I D E N T I A L WARSAW 0898

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PL, US

SUBJECT: MEETING WITH GIEREK, FEBRUARY 13

REF: WARSAW 826

1. MY MEETING WITH FIRST SECRETARY GIEREK LASTED ABOUT TWENTY MINUTES. ALSO PRESENT WERE VICE FOREIGN MINISTER SPASOWSKI AND, AS INTERPRETER, HENRYK SOKOLAK OF THE POLISH MFA.

2. GENERAL: GIEREK ASKED ME TO CONVEY THE VERY WARMEST GREETINGS FROM HIS WIFE AND HIM TO MRS. FORD AND THE PRESIDENT AND TO MRS. KISSINGER AND THE SECRETARY. OBVIOUSLY IN EXCELLENT SPIRITS AND ROBUST HEALTH, HE SPOKE WITH GREAT ENTHUSIASM ABOUT HIS VISIT TO THE US AND, IN PARTICULAR, HIS MEETINGS WITH THE PRESIDENT. HE SAID THAT THE FRUITS OF THESE MEETINGS WERE NOW BEING REALIZED AND REFERRED TO A NUMBER OF US-POLISH BUSINESS TRANSACTIONS, SOME ALREADY CONCLUDED (E.G., INTERNATIONAL HARVESTER; CHASE MANHATTAN'S FINANCING OF EXPANDED COPPER PRODUCTION) AND SOME STILL UNDER NEGOTIATION (THE SWINDELL-DRESSLER BID ON THE FOUNDRY-FORGE COMPLEX AT STALOWA WOLA). HE SAID THAT, UNDERSTANDABLY, IT TOOK SOME TIME TO WORK OUT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SOME OF THE AGREEMENTS WHICH HAD BEEN CONCLUDED IN WASHINGTON LAST OCTOBER, BUT HE THOUGHT THAT BOTH SIDE HAD EVERY REASON TO BE PLEASED WITH THE RESULTS SO FAR.

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3. ROLLOVER: GIEREK SAID THAT THERE WAS ONLY ONE PROBLEM, SO FAR AS HE COULD SEE, WHICH HE SHOULD SPECIFICALLY MENTION TO ME. THAT WAS THE QUESTION OF DEFERMENT OF PAYMENT ON POLAND'S PL-480 DEBT. HE SAID HE HOPED THAT THIS COULD SOON BE WORKED OUT. I SAID THAT WE HAD ALREADY HAD A USEFUL DISCUSSION OF THE PROBLEM HERE IN WARSAW AND I HOPED IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE TO PROCEED TO THE SECOND ROUND OF NEGOTIATIONS BY THE END OF THIS MONTH OR SHORTLY THEREAFTER. I EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT WE WOULD REACH A CONCLUSION AT THE SECOND.

4. VISIT BY PRESIDENT AND MRS. FORD: FOLLOWING SOME DETAILED REMINISCENCES OF HIS US VISIT, OCCASIONED BY LOOKING AT THE PHOTOGRAPHS IN THE ALBUM I HAD GIVEN HIM, GIEREK ASKED WHETHER I HAD ANY INFORMATION ON THE POSSIBILITY OF A PRESIDENTIAL VISIT TO POLAND THIS YEAR. BECAUSE OF POLITICAL EVENTS IN 1976, HE ASSUMED THE PRESIDENT WOULD FIND IT DIFFICULT TO VISIT POLAND THEN. HE VERY MUCH HOPED THAT THE PRESIDENT AND MRS. FORD COULD COME THIS YEAR. HE HAD BEEN THINKING ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF THE VISIT AND HAD SOME PERSONAL PLANS FOR ENTERTAINING THE PRESIDENT AND MRS. FORD IN A LESS FORMAL WAY, IF THEY COULD SPARE THE TIME AND COULD BE HERE WHEN THE WEATHER IS NICE. LATE SUMMER -- ANY TIME UP TO THE END OF SEPTEMBER -- WOULD BE IDEAL. HE HAD SEEN SOME PRESS STORIES ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE PRESIDENT MIGHT COME TO EUROPE THIS SPRING. IF HE DID SO, THE POLES WOULD VERY MUCH WISH TO TRY TO RECIPROCATATE THE OUTSTANDING HOSPITALITY SHOWN TO MRS. GIEREK AND HIM LAST OCTOBER. VICE MINISTER SPASOWSKI HERE MENTIONED THE IMMINENCE OF GISCARD D'ESTAING'S VISIT TO POLAND IN JUNE. GIEREK SAID THAT, IN ANY CASE, IT WAS A QUESTION OF PRESIDENT FORD'S SCHEDULE AND THE LARGE NUMBER OF DEMANDS MADE ON HIM. I SAID THERE HAD INDEED BEEN SOME PRESS SPECULATION ABOUT A PRESIDENTIAL VISIT TO EUROPE, BUT, SO FAR AS I WAS AWARE, IT WAS PRECISELY THAT, SPECULATION, AND REPRESENTED NO FIRM PLANS. I SAID I WOULD INQUIRE AND LET MINISTER SPASOWSKI KNOW WHAT I COULD LEARN.

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5. AS WE PARTED, THE FIRST SECRETARY AGAIN REQUESTED THAT MRS. GIEREK'S AND HIS WARMEST REGARDS SHOULD BE CONVEYED TO THE PRESIDENT AND MRS. FORD AND TO THE SECRETARY AND MRS. KISSINGER.

6 ACTION REQUESTED: I SHOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING GUIDANCE ON WHAT I MAY SAY ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF A VISIT TO POLAND THIS YEAR BY THE

PRESIDENT AND MRS. FORD
DAVIES

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